THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) As on 31.3. 96 there were 5,01,850 employees covered under the ESI Scheme in Karnataka. The ESI coverage in Karnataka increased by 23.91% over the last 5 years.

(b) Ther are two ESI hospitals in bangalore and one each in Chitradurga, North Kannada, Dharwar, Mysore, South Kannada. One ESI Hospital at Shabad, Gulbarga, has been constructed and handed over to the State Government for commissioning. Another ESI hospital at belgaum is nearing completion. A Statement showing number of ESI dispensaries is annexed.

(c) There are suggestions for making improvement in the Standard of medical care under the ESI Scheme.

(d) There is no proposal at present to extend the ESI Scheme in the unorganised sector.

Statement

Number of ESI dispensaries functioning in Karnataka.

District wise

Sl. No.	Name of the district	No. of dispensaries
1	Bangalore	60
2.	Chitradurga	7
3.	Kolar	4
4.	Shimoga	2
5.	Tumkur	3
6.	Belgaum	9
7.	Bijapur	3
8.	North Kannada	2
9.	Dharwar	12
10.	Gulbarga	9
11.	Bellary	5
12.	Raichur	3
13.	Mysore	11
14.	Mandya	3
15.	Hassan	1
16.	South Kannada	14
	Total:	148

ठेकेदारों द्वारा नियुक्त किए गए कर्मकारों की संख्या में वृद्धि

1009. **श्री अजीत जोगी:**
श्री एस० एस० सुरजेवाला:

क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश में ठेकेदारों द्वारा नियुक्त किए जा रहे कर्मकारों की संख्या में वृद्धि हो रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ठेकेदारों द्वारा कर्मकारों के नियोजन पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० पी० वीरेन्द्र कुमार): (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Amendment to Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

1016. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governement's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Ministry undecided on Child Labour Bill', appearing in the Times of India, dated the 4th July, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the issue was discussed at the Labour Ministers' Conference held recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of the action plan formulated in this regard; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Times of India dated 4th July, 1997 has reported that the Ministry of Labour has not been able to decide whether it should make necessary amendments in the existing legislation prohibiting employment of children in various